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XVIII. *An Account of yellow and red Pigment, found at Norton, with the Process for preparing the Yellow for Use ; accompanied with Specimens. In a Letter from the Reverend SAMUEL DEANE, F. A. A. to Mr. CALEB GANNETT, Rec. Sec. A. A.*

Falmouth, May 30, 1782.

S I R,

IN several places in *Norton*, in the county of *Bristol*, in the *Massachusetts*, has been found a fossil, near the surface of the earth, mixed with sand and small pieces of iron ore, from which is extracted two kinds of substances useful in painting, viz. yellow and red.

To make the yellow, the process is as follows: They mount a tub, or vat, on blocks two feet high, and put into it one third part as much of the earth as will fill it: then fill it up, almost to the brim, with water. After this, with hoes, they bruise it, and stir it about till it is dissolved and well mixed with the water. The sand, gravel and iron ore, in about the space of a minute, will sink to the bottom; at which time they draw off the water, with the pigment floating in it, letting it fall through a common bread-sieve, into a vat, or tub, standing on the ground. When the paint is all sunk to the bottom, the water is taken off through holes in the sides, and the paint dried well in the open air and sunshine, on a floor made tight and surrounded with a border, to prevent its running off. Being thoroughly dried, it is fit for grinding by the painter, making a greenish yellow colour. And I am told, a little black paint mixed with it, renders it a beautiful olive colour.

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The yellow paint, being dried as above, and then brought to a red heat, in a kettle over a hot fire, becomes a red paint resembling *Spanish*-brown, but of a finer and brighter colour. It is used by painters instead of *Spanish*-brown. They use it for out-door work ; and time will soon discover whether it will not be equally durable. The manufacturers sell it for about three pence a pound, which is cheap ; and it bids fair to be of great service to the public.

In the same town is found a white fossil, out of which is made a paint resembling *Spanish*-white, or whiting. But concerning this I have not been able to gain much information.

I have left samples of the yellow and red with the Keeper of the Cabinet : and if you think fit, you may communicate this to the Academy at their next meeting.

I am, Sir,

Your most humble servant,

SAMUEL DEANE.

Mr. Gannett.

P. S. Since writing the above I find, that this paint has stood the weather well, in several instances, for three or four years ; and bids fair to prove durable : and that the *red*, in its present state, is sold at fifteen shillings per hundred weight ; which is cheaper than can be obtained from *Europe*.

